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URBAN DISTRICT OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES.



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR  
1970.



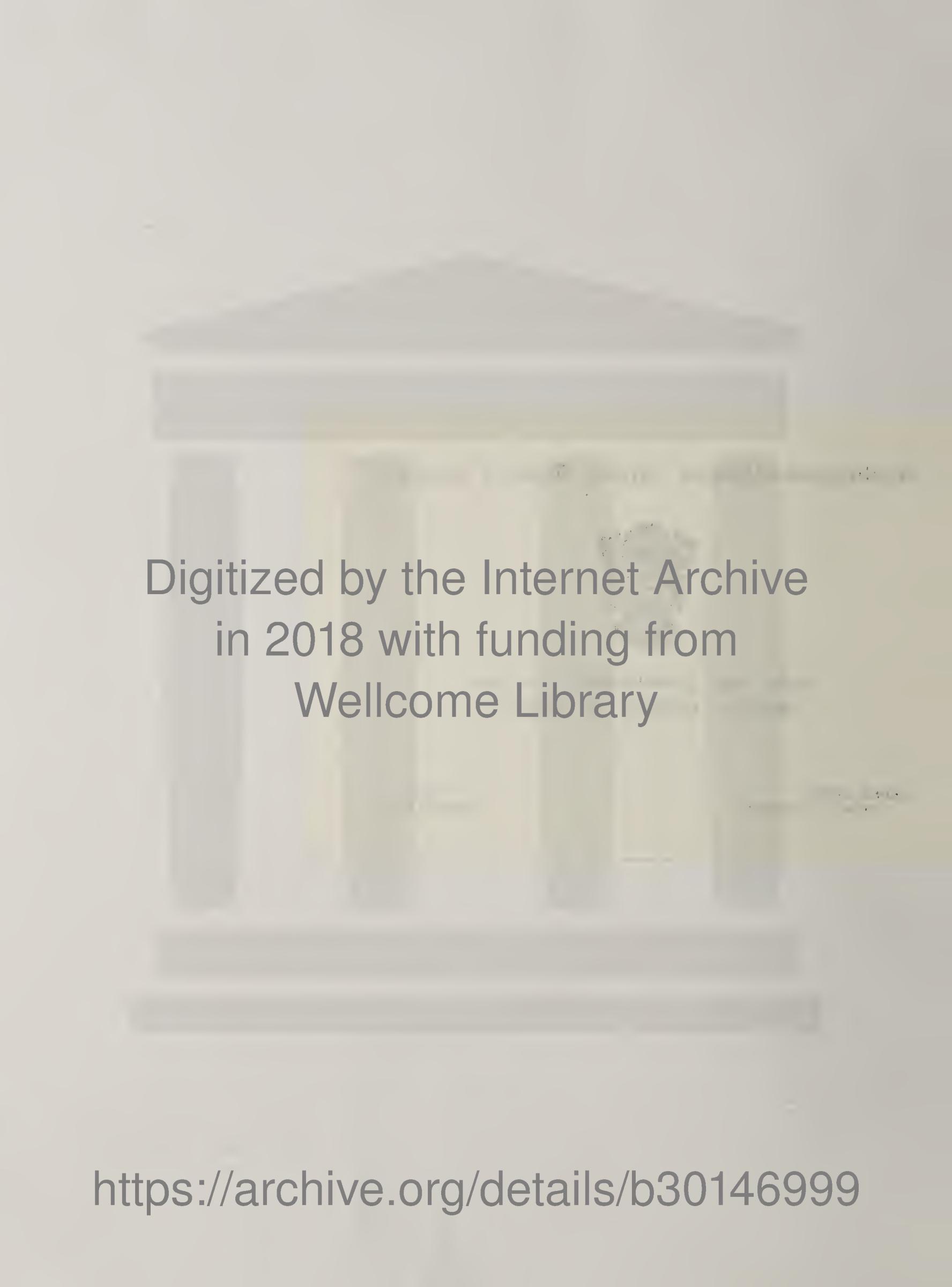
Sunbury-on-Thames Urban District Council.



WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

COUNCIL OFFICES,  
SUNBURY-ON-THAMES.

Telephone :  
SUNBURY 86411/6

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1970

Chairman

Councillor Mrs. E. M. Flagg.

Vice-Chairman

Councillor R. Jelfs

Councillors

Councillors E. A. Aries, S. C. B. Davey, R. L. Hall,  
W. G. Maddocks, E. M. G. Topping, and the Chairman of  
the Council, Councillor E. E. J. Wright (ex officio).

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

R. Arnallt Jones, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
(Retired 8.9.70)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

H. B. Thompson, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.Obst.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.  
(From 1.8.70)

Chief Public Health Inspector

C. W. Wood, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

T. A. Teal, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

K. F. Keegan, D.M.A., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerks

B. S. Bedborough.

Mrs. L. A. Campling (part-time)

General Assistant (Pest Control)

F. R. Uzzell.

Telephone:  
Sunbury 86411

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Sunbury-on-Thames.

July, 1971.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Sunbury-on-Thames Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health of this District during 1970.

Dr. R. Arnallt Jones, who had been Medical Officer for the Sunbury-on-Thames Urban District Council since 5th May, 1947, retired on 8th September, 1970. Dr. Jones was appointed part-time Medical Officer of Health from 1st October but resigned at the end of the year because of ill-health. I am pleased to report that his health has now improved considerably.

The population of the District, estimated by the Registrar General for mid-year 1970, is 40,250, compared with 40,120 at the same time last year. The birth and death rates are similar to last year's figures.

The infant deaths were mainly due to congenital abnormalities and prematurity. At the present time there is a considerable amount of research being conducted into methods of preventing infant deaths from both these causes.

The new Maternity Wing at St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, has been functioning since April, 1970, and will probably supply maternity care for some of the mothers living in this District in the future.

There was an increase in the number of cases of measles in this country during the summer, and Sir George Godber, the Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health and Social Security, appealed to parents of susceptible children who had not been protected by measles vaccination to get this protection for them. Many parents did bring their children for vaccination but it is important, if we are to eliminate measles from the community, for as many children as possible to be protected before they start school and preferably between the ages of one and two years. In England and Wales, in the first nine months of the year, thirty-four children died from measles.

In the Autumn, girls of thirteen years were offered vaccination against rubella (German measles). The purpose of this campaign is to protect these girls against rubella before they reach child bearing age, without attempting to reduce the incidence of natural rubella infection in younger children. The response was excellent and over 80% of the eligible girls were vaccinated, either at school or by their general practitioners. It is hoped that this campaign will in the future reduce the number of babies born with congenital abnormalities due to maternal rubella during pregnancy.

During August, El Tor cholera spread westwards into some Mediterranean countries and its possible importation into Britain was considered. From 18th September an International Certificate of Vaccination against cholera was required of every traveller who, during the five days prior to arrival in the United Kingdom, had been in any country which had been notified to the World Health Organisation as currently infected with cholera. Any person without a certificate was placed under observation by the Medical Officer of Health for five days. In Sunbury-on-Thames, this department placed under observation two adults who returned from holiday in Djerba at the time of the outbreak in September, and a lady whose aircraft landed at Istanbul and took on passengers when returning from holiday in October. I am glad to say that none of these people developed cholera.

In the Spring there was a mild outbreak of Sonnei dysentery in the Shepperton area - mainly affecting the younger children and occasionally involving their families. The outbreak was investigated by Dr. Jones and the Public Health Inspectors, who visited the houses of those affected, took stool specimens and advised on preventative measures at home and in the schools in the area.

There were nine cases of confirmed food poisoning during the year. All were single outbreaks with no other persons affected. The organisms were Salmonella typhimurium in five cases, Salmonella enteriditis in three cases, and Salmonella untyped in the remaining case. It was not possible to identify with certainty the food involved but in one case, turkey - eaten at a restaurant in London - was suspected, and in two cases the infection was probably contracted abroad.

Statistical data, particulars of food sampling by the Food and Drugs Authority and information on other relevant matters, together with the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, are included in subsequent pages of this report.

I would like to thank Mr. C. W. Wood, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and Mr. B. S. Bedborough, Chief Clerk, and all the staff of the Public Health Department for the great help and co-operation they have given to me since I took up my post as Deputy Medical Officer of Health, especially since Dr. Jones retired in September.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. B. THOMPSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS RELATING TO THE  
URBAN DISTRICT OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES (1970)

Area in acres: ... 5,609	Population: (estimated by the Registrar General for mid-year 1970) ... 40,250
Rateable Value: ... £2,479,296	Product of a 1d Rate ... ... £10,220

\*\*\*\*\*

				<u>Sunbury- on-Thames</u>	<u>*England &amp; Wales</u>
Live births	...	...	...	626	784,482
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	...	...	(a)	15.6	16.0
			(b)	13.1	
Still-births	...	...	...	7	10,341
Total live and still-births		...	...	633	794,823
Still-birth rate per 1,000 total live and still-births				11.0	13.0
Illegitimate live births	...	...	...	30	64,744
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births				5.0	8.0

\*\*\*\*\*

Deaths	...	...	...	377	575,208
Death rate per 1,000 population	...	...	(a)	9.4	11.7
			(b)	10.7	
Infant deaths (deaths under one year)		...		8	14,269
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 total live births				13.0	18.0
Legitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...			13.0	17.0
Illegitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...			-	26.0
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks) per 1,000 total live births	...			10.0	12.0
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week) per 1,000 total live births				10.0	11.0
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under one week combined) per 1,000 total live and still-births	...			21.0	23.0
Maternal deaths (including abortion) ...	...			Nil	

\*\*\*\*\*

Comparability Factors:      Births 0.84  
    Deaths 1.14

(a) Crude Rate    (b) Adjusted Rate    \* Provisional Rate

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1970

Live Births

			<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Total</u>
Males	...	...	300	11	311
Females	...	...	296	19	315
			—	—	—
			596	30	626
			—	—	—

Crude birth rate per 1,000 of the population ... 15.6

Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 of the population ... 13.1

Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales) ... 16.0

Live Births 1966 - 1970

Year	Sunbury-on-Thames			England & Wales
	Live births	Crude rate per 1,000 population	Adjusted rate per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000 population
1966	755	19.4	16.3	17.7
1967	658	16.7	14.1	17.2
1968	676	17.0	14.3	16.9
1969	623	15.5	13.0	16.3
1970	626	15.6	13.1	16.0

Still Births

		<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Total</u>
Males	...	4	-	4
Females	...	3	-	3

Still-birth rate per 1,000 total live and still-births: 11.0

(England and Wales: 13.0)

Deaths of infants under one year of age

		<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Total</u>
Males	...	5	-	5
Females	...	3	-	3

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 total live births - 13.0 (England and Wales - 18.0)

Analysis of Infant Deaths

Causes	Ages										Total	
	Under 1 day		1 - 6 days		7 - 14 days		15 - 28 days		1 - 12 months			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Congenital anomalies	1	1							1		3	
Birth injury	1										1	
Pneumonia									1		1	
Prematurity	1	2									3	
Total	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	8	

Infant Mortality 1966 - 1970

Year	Sunbury-on-Thames			England & Wales
	Live births	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000 live births	Rate per 1,000 live births
1966	755	9	11.9	19.0
1967	658	12	18.2	18.3
1968	676	11	16.2	18.0
1969	623	8	12.8	18.0
1970	626	8	13.0	18.0

Deaths (all ages)

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
181	196	377
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the population	...	9.4
Adjusted death rate per 1,000 of the population	...	10.7
Death rate per 1,000 of the population (England and Wales)	...	11.7

Deaths 1966 - 1970

Year	Deaths	Sunbury-on-Thames		England and Wales
		Crude rate per 1,000 population	Adjusted rate per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000 population
1966	399	10.3	11.0	11.7
1967	352	9.0	9.9	11.2
1968	372	9.5	10.1	11.9
1969	386	9.6	10.8	11.9
1970	377	9.4	10.7	11.7

Explanatory Note:

Adjusted Rates: When comparing the rate of one district with that of another allowances should be made for the age and sex distribution of the population and an adjusted rate obtained which is the product of the crude rate and the comparability factor.

Comparability Factors for the District  
(Calculated by the Registrar General)

Births: 0.84      Deaths: 1.14

Chief Causes of Death

Diseases of the heart and blood vessels	...	183
Malignant new growths	...	87
Pneumonia and bronchitis	...	53

CAUSES OF DEATH - REGISTRAR GENERAL'S  
OFFICIAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1970

<u>Ref. No.</u>			<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
B 6 (2)	Other tuberculosis	...	...	-	1
B17	Syphilis and its sequelae	...	-	1	1
B18	Other infective and parasitic diseases		-	1	1
B19 (1)	Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc		2	1	3
B19 (2)	do. oesophagus	...	2	2	4
B19 (3)	do. stomach	...	3	3	6
B19 (4)	do. intestine	...	3	7	10
B19 (6)	do. lung, bronchus	...	17	6	23
B19 (7)	do. breast	...	-	6	6
B19 (8)	do. uterus	...	-	4	4
B19 (9)	do. prostate	...	5	-	5
B19 (10)	Leukaemia	...	1	1	2
B19 (11)	Other malignant neoplasms	...	11	12	23
B20	Benign and unspecified neoplasms	...	-	1	1
B21	Diabetes mellitus	...	2	-	2
B46 (1)	Other endocrine etc diseases	...	1	1	2
B46 (3)	Mental disorders	...	1	-	1
B23	Anaemias	...	-	1	1
B46 (5)	Other diseases of nervous system	...	-	3	3
B26	Chronic rheumatic heart disease	...	2	4	6
B27	Hypertensive disease	...	4	4	8
B28	Ischaemic heart disease	...	55	28	83
B29	Other forms of heart disease	...	7	16	23
B30	Cerebrovascular disease	...	5	30	35
B46 (6)	Other diseases of circulatory system	...	13	15	28
B31	Influenza	...	-	3	3
B32	Pneumonia	...	11	28	39
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and emphysema	...	12	2	14
B33 (2)	Asthma	...	1	-	1
B46 (7)	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	3	1	4
B34	Peptic ulcer	...	1	1	2
B36	Intestinal obstruction and hernia	...	-	2	2
B46 (8)	Other diseases of digestive system	...	2	1	3
B38	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	1	-	1
B46 (9)	Other diseases, genito-urinary system		1	2	3
B46 (11)	Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	...	-	1	1
B42	Congenital anomalies	...	2	2	4
B43	Birth injury, difficult labour etc	...	1	-	1
B44	Other causes of perinatal mortality	...	1	2	3
BE47	Motor vehicle accidents	...	7	-	7
BE48	All other accidents	...	2	1	3
BE49	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	...	1	2	3
BE50	All other external causes	...	1	-	1
ALL CAUSES			<u>181</u>	<u>196</u>	<u>377</u>

## NUMBERS OF DEATHS BY CAUSES IN SEX AND AGE GROUPS

* Ref. No.	Age in years																			
	0-		1-		5-		15-		25-		35-		45-		55-		65-		75-	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
B 6 (2)																		1		
B17																				1
B18																		1		
B19 (1)															1	1				1
B19 (2)																		1	2	1
B19 (3)															1	1	1		1	2
B19 (4)															2	1	1	2		4
B19 (6)															2	1	4	2	7	1
B19 (7)															1		2		3	
B19 (8)															1		2			1
B19 (9)																	3		2	
B19 (10)															1					1
B19 (11)															3	2	4	2	6	2
B20							1													
B21								1										1		
B46 (1)							1											1		
B23																				1
B46 (3)																	1			
B46 (5)																		1		2
B26															1	1		2		2
B27																1		2	3	2
B28															1	1	8	1	14	5
Totals carried forward	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	2	15	6	29	14	34	29	29	34	29	34

(Continued on page 10)

NUMBERS OF DEATHS BY CAUSES IN SEX AND AGE GROUPS (Continued)

* Ref. No.	Age in years																			
	0-		1-		5-		15-		25-		35-		45-		55-		65-		75-	
	M	F	M	F	F		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Totals brought forward	-	-	-	-	1		1	1	-	1	2	15	6	29	14	34	29	29	34	
B29															1		2	7	13	
B30															2	4	3	8	18	
B46 (6)										1					1		7	3	4	12
B31																	2		1	
B32	1	1													1	2	4	1	4	25
B33 (1)																	6	1	6	1
B33 (2)								1												
B46 (7)				1															2	1
B34																			1	1
B36																				2
B46 (8)																		2		1
B38																1				
B46 (9)											1								1	1
B46 (11)										1										
B42	2	1														1				
B43	1																			
B44	1	2																		
BE47			1	1					1				2		1		1			
BE48				2															1	
BE49												1	1					1		
BE50																1				
Totals	5	3	2	4	1		1	3	1	2	3	18	8	36	21	57	47	54	111	

\* These reference numbers correspond with those in the table on page 8.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The numbers of cases of infectious disease notified in 1970, classified according to sex and age, are shown in the following table :-

Age group	Dysentery	Food poisoning		Infective jaundice		Measles		Acute meningitis		Scarlet fever		Whooping cough		
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
0 - 1		1	1			2	3		1					
1 year	1	1				6	6							
2 years	2		1			4	4					1		
3 years	2		1			5	9			1	1			
4 years	3	2				5	6			3				
5 - 9	10	9			1	23	15				1		1	
10 - 14	2	2	2							2	1			
15 - 19				2	1				1		2			
20 - 24			1											
25 - 34	1	4									1	2		
35 - 44	2	1												
45 - 64	1	1		1										
65 and over														
Age unknown	1	2					1							
TOTALS	25	23	5	4	1	1	46	43	1	1	9	5	1	1
Admitted to Hospital	1	-	2	2	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-

The following numbers of cases of infectious disease were brought to the notice of the Public Health Department by Heads of Schools :-

Chickenpox ..	42	Measles ..	31	Scarlet fever ..	10
German measles ..	40	Mumps ..	84	Whooping cough ..	4

The following table shows the numbers of cases of infectious disease, excluding tuberculosis, notified in each month of 1970 :-

MONTH	Dysentery	Food poisoning	Infective jaundice	Measles	Acute meningitis	Scarlet fever	Whooping cough
JAN	6					1	
FEB	1						
MAR	16					2	
APR	13			19		2	
MAY	4	1		5			
JUN	8			2		1	
JUL		2		25		1	
AUG		1		11	1		1
SEP				3		3	
OCT		2				2	
NOV		1	1	14	1		1
DEC		2	1	10		2	
TOTAL	48	9	2	89	2	14	2

The number of cases of infectious disease, excluding tuberculosis, notified in the past five years are as follows :-

Disease	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Dysentery	1	-	1	10	48
Encephalitis	-	3	1	1	-
Erysipelas *	-	1	-	-	-
Food poisoning	3	7	5	16	9
Infective jaundice *	-	-	3	2	2
Measles	295	334	87	69	89
Acute meningitis	-	1	-	2	2
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	-
Scarlet fever	23	36	10	8	14
Whooping cough	15	10	5	2	2

\* Not notifiable from 1.10.68.

\* Notifiable from 15.6.68.

Tuberculosis - 1970

Age Group	New cases notified						Deaths					
	Respiratory		Meninges and C.N.S.		Other forms		Respiratory		Meninges and C.N.S.		Other forms	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year												
1 - 9		1										
20 - 24												
25 - 34		1										
35 - 54	1											
55 - 64		2										
65 and over												1
Age unknown												
<b>TOTAL (all ages)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

The numbers of cases of tuberculosis notified or removed from the Register (as "Recovered") in the past five years are as follows :-

New cases notified	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Respiratory	4	2	4	6	5
Meninges and C.N.S.	-	-	-	-	-
Other forms	1	2	-	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>
Removed from Register as "Recovered"	6	15	2	1	9

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

### Certificates of Vaccination:

During the year 1,150 International Certificates of Vaccination were brought to this office and the signature of the doctor authenticated.

### Dwelling Accommodation:

The number of dwellings in the District (in December 1970) was 13,435. In addition approximately 350 caravans were in use.

One hundred and ninety-two new units of accommodation were erected during the year.

### Water Supplies:

All dwellings are provided by the water companies with mains water with the exception of the few that are dependent on shallow wells. About 400 temporary dwellings (including caravans) are supplied with mains water from standpipes.

#### (a) Water Companies:

The District is supplied by the following water companies:

- i. Metropolitan Water Board,
- ii. South West Suburban Water Company,
- iii. Woking and District Water Company.

Bacteriological and chemical reports submitted by the water companies indicate that the supply is wholesome and satisfactory in quality, and that it is not considered to be plumbo-solvent. The natural fluoride content varies from 0.09 to 0.39 parts per million.

#### (b) Shallow Wells:

Forty caravans and other premises are provided from shallow wells. Bacteriological tests were carried out on six samples from four wells known to be sources of drinking water. Five samples were reported to be "satisfactory". One sample was reported to be "suspicious" but a further sample from the same source proved to be satisfactory.

### Refuse Collection and Disposal:

Domestic refuse is regularly collected on a weekly basis and taken to the Charlton Disposal Plant, which is operated by the Greater London Council.

Any householder who has unwanted furniture, water tanks, cars, refrigerators, and other bulky household articles for disposal can contact the Engineer and Surveyor at the Council Offices and arrangements will be made for them to be collected free of charge.

This free service is not applicable to the collection of garden refuse, builders rubbish, such as scrap corrugated iron sheeting, wire netting, concrete posts and rubble, or other articles and materials which present loading problems, for which a collection charge is made.

Any refuse, including the garden refuse and builders rubbish, etc, mentioned above, can be taken by the householder himself to the Charlton Plant during normal working hours and on Saturday mornings. In these cases no charge is made.

Despite these arrangements it is found that unwanted bulky household refuse is often indiscriminately dumped in ditches and on waste ground in the District. The Council are concerned at this practice and the Engineer and Surveyor employs labour to regularly clear deposits in an effort to maintain the amenities of the area.

#### Sewerage:

Approximately eighty cesspools are in use. Caravans and some riverside dwellings are provided with chemical closets. Facilities for the emptying of cesspools are available.

With these exceptions all dwellings are sewered and the sewage is treated at the Mogden Works of the Greater London Council at Isleworth.

#### Mass Radiography Survey:

At the survey carried out in this District by the Mass X-ray Unit of the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board during July a total of 3,245 persons over the age of fourteen years attended for chest x-ray. This number was composed of 1,853 members of the general public and 1,392 attending in organised groups from local firms.

Members of the staffs of two large local firms were x-rayed in 1969, when 1,188 attended. If this figure is added to the attendance in July this year there is a grand total of 4,433 for 1970, which compares favourably with the 1965 survey figure of 4,440.

#### National Assistance Act, 1948, Sec. 47, and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951:

It was not necessary to take statutory action during the year under these Acts.

#### Factories Act, 1961:

Particulars of the administration of this Act are submitted in an Appendix to this report on pages 18 and 19.

#### Laboratory Samples:

One hundred and sixty-one samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Epsom :-

	<u>Number of Samples</u>			
Water (bacteriological examination):				
Wells	...	...	...	6
Mains	...	...	...	2
Swimming Pool	...	...	...	4
Stools	...	...	...	130
Milk	...	...	...	19

Food and Drugs Act, 1955:

The Surrey County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for this District and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following information on samples procured during 1970 :-

<u>Articles</u>		<u>Number Analysed</u>	<u>Adulterated or Irregular</u>
<u>Foods:</u>			
Almonds, ground		1	
Bread	...	...	2
Buttermilk	...	...	1
Cheese	...	...	1
Chocolate, drinking	...	1	
Chocolate spread	...	1	
Coffee, instant	...	2	
Cooking oil	...	2	
Confectionery, flour	...	3	
Confectionery, sugar	...	2	...
Cranberry sauce	...	1	1
Cream	...	1	
Cream, soured	...	1	
Croquette	...	1	
Curry	...	1	
Fish paste	...	1	
Fish, tinned	...	1	
Flour	...	1	
Gin	...	1	
Ham and Tongue pâté	...	1	
Irish stew	...	2	...
Jam	...	2	1
Jelly	...	2	
Lambs tongues in jelly		2	...
Liver pâté	...	1	1
Margarine	...	1	
Marzipan	...	1	
Meat, cooked and prepared		19	...
Milk	...	12	1
Milk, condensed	...	1	
Milk, evaporated	...	3	
Milk Top	...	2	
Pies, meat	...	3	
Potato mix	...	1	
Potatoes, mashed, instant		1	
Prawn cocktail	...	1	
Pudding, meat	...	2	
Pudding, milk	...	1	
Pudding, mix	...	1	

(Continued)

<u>Articles</u>		<u>Number Analysed</u>	<u>Adulterated or Irregular</u>
Salt	...	1	
Sausagemeat	...	1	
Sausage Roll	...	1	
Sausages	...	5	
Sausages, Frankfurter	...	1	
Sausages, Hot Dog	...	1	
Soft Drinks	...	2	
Sugar	...	2	
Sweetener with sugar	...	1	
Truffle, pâté-de-foie		1	
Vinegar	...	2	
Whisky	...	4	
Wine	...	1	
Yogurt, low fat	...	2	

Drugs:

Codeine tablets	...	2
Cough mixture	...	1
Cough treatment	...	1
Expectorant	...	1
Honey cough syrup	...	1
Honey and lemon linctus		1
Paracetamol tablets	...	1
Throat and Chest tablets		1
Yeast tablets	...	1

\*\*\*\*\*

A sugar confectionery sample consisted of "Rum Truffles" which analysis showed to contain only 0.07 per cent of alcohol. The manufacturers agreed to alter the name of the product to "Rum Flavoured Truffles".

The meat content of a sample of Irish Stew was found to be 18 per cent instead of 35 per cent. As the trade are negotiating with the Ministry concerned regarding standards no action was taken.

On analysis one sample of lambs tongues in jelly was found to consist of 70 per cent meat and 30 per cent jelly but a further sample contained 80 per cent meat and no further action was taken.

The amount of sodium nitrite and sodium nitrate in a sample of boneless skinned ham was not shown on the label. The suppliers agreed to amend the labelling of this product.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN  
RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1970 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT  
OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES IN THE COUNTY OF SURREY.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Ss. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which s.7 is en- forced by the Local Auth.	126	15	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which s.7 is enforced by the Local Auth. (excluding outworkers' premises)	12	-	1	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were					Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred				
			to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)			
Want of cleanliness (Sec.1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding (Sec.2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature (Sec.3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate venti- lation (Sec. 4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	

(Continued)

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found (Continued)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (Sec.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	1	-	1	-

PART VIII of the ACT - OUTWORKERS (Sections 133 and 144)

<u>Section 133</u>				
Number of outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	}	Wearing apparel	...	14
		Artificial flowers	...	3
		Lampshades	...	1
	}	Fuses	...	3
Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council		...	...	Nil
Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists		...	...	Nil
<u>Section 134</u>				
Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises		...	...	Nil
Notices served	...	...	...	Nil
Prosecutions	...	...	...	Nil

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Sunbury-on-Thames.

July, 1971.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for 1970.

Routine public health work continued steadily to maintain and improve environmental conditions in the district and no serious problems occurred during the year. Environmental health matters are essentially of a local nature and with the advent of local government reorganisation into larger units of administration it is hoped that it will be borne in mind that the service should always be readily available to residents who will naturally look to the district Council for advice and assistance.

A considerable amount of work has been involved in connection with the issue of qualification certificates under the Housing Act 1969.

Very few problems exist regarding unfit houses and it was not necessary to represent any dwellings as being unsuitable for habitation. Two houses were made fit following earlier Closing Orders.

As a result of private residential redevelopment and road improvement schemes thirty-four older type properties were demolished.

Over twenty-three thousand animals were slaughtered locally for human consumption and the essential task of meat inspection absorbed a large proportion of your public health inspectors' time.

Statistics and details of the work undertaken by the department are contained in the following pages of the report and I would like to express my appreciation of the willing co-operation I have received from members and staff of the Council during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. W. WOOD.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

Condition of premises	...	...	55
Choked or defective drains	...	...	50
Collection of refuse	...	...	5
Deposits of refuse	...	...	18
Rats	...	...	247
Mice	...	...	109
Bugs, fleas, etc.	...	...	15
Wasps	...	...	126
Other insects	...	...	57
Noise	...	...	50
Dust	...	...	4
Smoke and smell	...	...	59
Moveable dwellings	...	...	5
Unsound food	...	...	26
Keeping of animals	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	42
			<hr/>
			872
			<hr/>

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Housing defects:

(a) Public Health Act 1936:

(i) primary inspections	...	55
(ii) re-inspections	...	290

(b) Housing Act 1957:

(i) primary inspections	...	-
(ii) re-inspections	...	6

Public Health Acts	...	...	163
Housing Act 1969	...	...	688
Other Housing Acts	...	...	96
Factories	...	...	15
Licensed premises	...	...	20
Slaughterhouse	...	...	2
Knackers yard	...	...	21
Food shops	...	...	106
Bakehouses	...	...	5
Food preparing premises	...	...	73
Food inspection - meat	...	...	958
- other foodstuffs	...	...	129
Sampling - milk	...	...	19
- water	...	...	10
Deposits of refuse	...	...	63
Infilling of gravel pits	...	...	126
Moveable dwellings	...	...	16

Keeping of animals	...	...	27
Rodent control	...	...	62
Vermin and other pests	...	...	123
* Air pollution	...	...	133
Drainage	...	...	114
Infectious diseases	...	...	405
Rivers, ditches and watercourses		...	30
Noise Abatement Act	...	...	138
Petroleum (Regulation) Acts	...	...	214
National Assistance Acts	...	...	5
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	...	...	75
Pet Animals Act	...	...	5
Riding Establishments Act	...	...	8
Animal Boarding Establishments Act		...	10
Appointments with owners or agents		...	41
Miscellaneous	...	...	130
			<hr/>
			4,381
			<hr/>

\* Smoke, smuts, smell, fumes and dust.

#### NOTICES SERVED

		<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>
Public Health and Housing Acts	...	84	14
Petroleum (Regulation) Acts	...	2	-
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act		6	-
Food Hygiene Regulations	...	14	-
Factories Act	...	1	-

#### HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Number of new houses built during 1970:
  - (a) by private enterprise     ...
  - (b) by Local Authority     ...
2. (a) Number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts     ...     348
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose     ...     1,039
3. (a) Number of dwellinghouses found to be unfit for human habitation     ...     -
- (b) Number of dwellinghouses where defects were found to exist (excluding those referred to under preceding heading)     ...     303
4. Number of dwellinghouses where defects were remedied as the result of informal action     ...     73

(Continued)

Action under Statutory  
Powers during the year

5. Proceedings under Public Health Act 1936:

(a) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	14
(b) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice	...	9

6. Proceedings under Sections 16

and 17 of the Housing Act 1957:

(a) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	-
(b) Number of dwellinghouses demolished	...	-
(c) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	-
(d) Number of dwellinghouses closed	...	2
(e) Number of dwellinghouses where Undertakings have been given not to relet until made fit for habitation	...	-

7. Proceedings under Part III

of the Housing Act 1957:

(a) Number of Clearance Areas declared	...	-
(b) Number of dwellinghouses included in Clearance Areas	...	-
(c) Number of dwellinghouses in Clearance Areas demolished	...	-

HOUSING ACT 1969

(i) PART I - Improvement Grants:

New incentives given by this Act, coupled with extensive national publicity, had the effect of increasing the number of grants made to improve and repair houses.

During the year the Council approved 29 (2 in 1969) Discretionary Grants and 22 (22 in 1969) Standard Grants.

Applications for grants were considered by the Finance (Improvement Grants) Sub-Committee and reports upon the applications were made by the Engineer and Surveyor.

(ii) PART III - Qualification Certificates:

The 1969 Act introduced a new system governing the rents of private rented dwellings which have been brought up to a satisfactory standard and the public health department has been engaged in the investigation of applications for Qualification Certificates.

(Continued)

Two hundred and ninety-five applications were received and the following table shows the position at 31st December, 1970 :-

FORM 'A'

Applications received	...	...	28
Applications where additional repair work was found to be necessary to justify good repair	...	...	28
Provisional Qualification Certificates issued	...	17 )	
Applications withdrawn	...	1 )	
Awaiting owner's agreement to undertake additional work		)	28
Awaiting issue of Provisional Qualification Certificates		{	
		1 )	

FORM 'B'

Applications received	...	...	267
Dwellings found not to be in good repair	...	...	226
Qualification Certificates issued	...	63 )	
Applications where works are in progress	...	147 )	
Applications withdrawn	...	3 )	267
Applications refused	...	45 )	
Awaiting issue of Qualification Certificates		9 )	

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Seventy-five visits were made by Public Health Inspectors to shops and offices registered under this Act. At the end of the year 253 premises were registered and an annual report on proceedings was submitted to the Department of Employment and Productivity as required by Section 60 of the Act.

Due to pressure of other work the number of general inspections was rather less than desired but this will be rectified during the coming year.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 & 1936

The Council is responsible for the annual licensing of premises where petroleum spirit (including certain petroleum mixtures) is stored.

Forty-three licences were issued in 1970, representing storage of approximately 200,000 gallons.

The new Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing Conditions adopted by the Council at the end of 1969 required, in particular, the pro-

vision by the licensee of an annual electrical test certificate. Considerable work was undertaken at licensed petroleum installations early in 1970 in order to comply with the new electrical safety requirements.

A three-day course for Petroleum Officers in April 1970, organised by the Association for Petroleum Acts Administration, was attended by Mr. T. A. Teal, Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

#### RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1964

This Act forbids the keeping of a riding establishment unless licensed by the local authority. Licences are granted annually and two licences were issued in 1970. The Council have authorised a firm of veterinary surgeons to carry out inspection of premises and animals under the Act.

The term "riding establishment" means the carrying on of a business of keeping horses to let out on hire for riding or being used in providing instruction in riding for payment, or both.

#### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

Four annual licences were issued in respect of establishments where dogs and cats are boarded. Licences impose conditions for securing the suitability of accommodation, control of infection and provision of a record of animals boarded.

Periodic inspections of premises are made by your public health inspectors.

#### NOISE ABATEMENT

There was an increase in the number of complaints received relating to noise (50) as compared with 1969 (28).

The majority of complaints concerned noise from industrial or business premises in close proximity to residential areas and considerable time and patience must be spent in the investigation of this kind of complaint.

One hundred and thirty-eight visits were made as a result of complaints by residents who, quite rightly, are becoming less tolerant of unnecessary noise, and in all cases an abatement or reduction of the noise was achieved by informal approach and co-operation with management.

In no instance was it necessary to seek the Council's formal action under the Noise Abatement Act 1960. It should be mentioned that aircraft noise is excluded from this Act.

#### REFUSE TIPS

Permission to deposit refuse in existing or exhausted wet gravel pits is given under the Surrey County Council Act 1931 by the local authority and by the County Council.

Conditions are imposed regarding the type of materials permitted to be deposited and the consents are reviewed annually. Six consents were given in 1970 and filling took place in three pits. Frequent inspections are made to ensure that the operations are carried out in accordance with the conditions and without nuisance.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

Rodent Control:

The number of rat infestations remained fairly constant, whereas mice infestations showed a slight increase over the previous year. There is indication generally that mice are becoming more resistant to anti-coagulant poisons.

All infestations were of a minor character and no major reservoirs of breeding exist in the locality. In no instance was any evidence found which indicated infestation in drains or sewers.

No charge is made for treatment of domestic premises but business and industrial premises are charged for work undertaken.

Mr. F. R. Uzzell retired as rodent operator towards the end of the year and we were able to re-engage him as General Assistant (Pest Control) and retain his services to maintain this essential public health function.

The following table shows details of rodent control work carried out during the year :-

	Type of property	
	Dwelling -houses (incl. Council properties)	All other (including business premises)
Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	265	79
Properties found to be infested by )	190	28
	Mice	54
Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey following notification	69	37
Number of such properties found to be infested by )	60	33
	Mice	7
Total number of properties inspected for reasons other than notification e.g. routine survey	2	20
Number of such properties found to be infested by )	2	13
	Mice	-
Total number of inspections carried out, including re-inspections	1,266	388
Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority )	247	78
	Mice	59
		41

### Other Pest Control:

Treatment to eradicate infestations of various other pests (e.g. bugs, fleas, cockroaches, bats and wasps) is also undertaken by the pest operator and 247 visits were made for this purpose. Where treatment is not practicable advice is given regarding methods of control.

An unusually high number of wasps nests were destroyed (109), and a charge of £1.50 was made for the service.

Several complaints were received regarding foxes living and breeding in the district but the extermination of foxes is not a service provided by the Council, the animal not being regarded as a pest under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949. At one time the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food provided a control service in semi-urban areas but this was withdrawn at the end of March, 1970.

The taking of foxes requires special skill and very few local authorities would have labour for this task, even if considered to be desirable.

During mid-April, 1970, many complaints were made by residents in the Shepperton area regarding dense swarms of midges emerging from nearby gravel pits. The midges were Chironomids and because of the particular life-cycle of this insect effective control is virtually impossible.

The adult female lays from between 500 and 1,000 eggs on vegetation beneath the water; the larvae live in the mud at the sides and on the bottom of the pits where they pupate and develop into midges. The midges are actually hatched beneath the water and rise to the surface to swarm.

The period of nuisance can vary from a few days to about a month and in the particular case the swarming continued, in varying degrees of severity, for the longer period. Fortunately the midges are of a non-biting variety and the nuisance was caused by the very large numbers which persisted in the gardens of houses close to the pits and entered houses via open windows and doors.

There was no public health hazard involved and no remedial action could usefully be taken by the public health department.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### Food Complaints:

Twenty-six complaints regarding unsound or suspicious food were received and each case was thoroughly investigated.

In two cases, concerning stale meat products, warning letters were sent to retailers but in no instance was it found necessary to seek the Council's authority to take formal action under the Food and Drugs Act 1955.

#### Milk and Dairies:

The Council are required under Part III of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 to maintain a register of dairies and distributors of milk.

There are no dairies but twenty-four distributors are registered.

The Surrey County Council, as Food and Drugs Authority, are responsible for the issue of dealers' licences under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960/63.

/By arrangement .....

By arrangement with the County Council your public health inspectors carry out milk sampling work and reports are provided monthly to the County Medical Officer.

Nineteen samples were taken during the year and all were found to satisfy the tests prescribed by the Regulations.

Premises registered under Section 16

of the Food and Drugs Act 1955:

(a)	Ice cream manufacture	...	...	-
(b)	Storage and sale of ice cream	...	61	
(c)	Manufacture of sausages and preserved food	...	20	

Food Premises:

One hundred and eight-six visits were made to food premises and fourteen notices were served where contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations were found.

The table on page 29 shows the number and type of food premises in the district and indicates, as required by Department of Health and Social Security Circular 1/71, the standard of compliance with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, so far as the provision of washing facilities is concerned.

Meat Inspection:

The number of animals slaughtered for human consumption at the one private slaughterhouse in the district was 23,238.

Detailed inspection was carried out by your public health inspectors before the meat was released for sale and sound carcasses were stamped, as required by the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963.

A charge is made upon the occupier of the slaughterhouse for the meat inspection service and the Council received an income of £764 for the year ended 31st December, 1970.

Instruction in practical meat inspection was given to a number of student public health inspectors from other local authorities.

Details of animals slaughtered and inspected and of meat condemned are shown in the table on page 30 of this report.

Other Food Condemned:

In all cases the undermentioned foods have been voluntarily surrendered by occupiers of shops :-

Fish	...	...	120	lbs	Canned fruit	...	656	cans
Canned fish	...	...	90	cans	"Oven-ready" chickens		235	*
Canned vegetables	...	...	645	cans	Miscellaneous food		113	lbs
Carcass meat	...	...	373	lbs	Miscellaneous frozen			
Canned meat	...	...	143	lbs	food	...	5,179	pkts*

\* These items relate to instances where food has been surrendered as the result of breakdown of frozen food cabinets in supermarkets. The food is not necessarily unfit for human consumption but has become an unsaleable product as a result of being defrosted.

Number and type of food premises

Food premises	No.	No. of premises where wash-hand basins are provided for use of persons engaged in the handling of food. (Regulation 16)	Number of premises where it is necessary to provide separate facilities for the washing of food or equipment (Regulation 19)	Number of premises where separate facilities are provided for washing food and equipment. (Regulation 19)
Bakers and Confectioners	8	8	8	8
Butchers	16	16	16	16
Clubs	15	15	15	15
Factory Canteens	27	27	27	27
Wet & Fried Fish Shops	6	6	6	6
Greengrocers	15	15	15	15
Grocers and "General Stores"	40	40	36	39
Licensed Premises	33	33	33	33
Milk Depots	1	1	0	1
Restaurants and Cafes	23	23	23	23
School Kitchens	13	13	13	13
Slaughter-houses	1	1	1	1
Soft Drink Manufacturers	1	1	1	1
Sweets and Confectionery	32	32	19	22

Details of animals slaughtered,  
inspected, and carcases condemned.

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number killed	200	47	6,025	10,526	6,433	7
Number inspected	200	47	6,025	10,526	6,433	7
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	1	13	13	3	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	58	28	37	913	1,426	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	29.0	61.7	0.8	8.8	22.2	-
<u>Tuberculosis</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	63	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.98	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to refrigeration treatment	3	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Approximately four tons of meat  
and offal was condemned as being  
unfit for human consumption.



